



Attorney Docket No. 0670-262

267/311DS
4/29/04
K. Powell

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Eietsu SASAKI et al.

Serial No. 09/889,693

Filed: July 20, 2001

For: GROPING OPERATION
APPARATUS

) Group Art Unit: 2673

) Examiner:

) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

) I hereby certify that this correspondence is
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Honorable Commissioner of Patents
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Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicant submits herewith a Form PTO-1449 listing references known to Applicant and requests that these references be made of record in the above identified application. Copies of the references listed are submitted herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a).

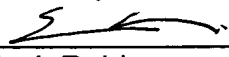
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), it is certified that either (1) each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement, or (2) no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application and no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

U.S. Patent No. 5,995,083 is in the family of 10-149254.

U.S. Patent 4,954,967 is in the family of JP 03-049119.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, 1.20(a), 1.20(b), 1.20(c), and 1.20(d) (except the Issue Fee) which may be required now or hereafter, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2280. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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